GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1724
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016
Protection of Ponds and Lakes
Roy Prof. Saugata

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to introduce a new law or implement the existing laws effective to check the filling of existing ponds and lakes all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has directed the State Governments to take strict action for protection of the ponds and lakes including making of boundaries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a)to (d) The Central Government has notified the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to regulate various activities within the notified wetlands, including lakes and ponds. The provisions under the Wetlands Rules include certain prohibited activities as well as those activities which can not be undertaken without prior approval of the concerned State Government / Union Territory, process for identification of wetlands under different categories, criteria for notifying the wetlands for regulation, etc. However, the Government has undertaken the task of revisiting the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2010 in consultation with the State Government / Union Territories and other stakeholders.

In order to conserve wetlands and lakes in an integrated manner, all the States/ Union Territories have been advised for giving high priority for constitution of State wetland/ lake authorities, identification and notification of priority wetlands including delineation of their boundaries, development of integrated management plans, securing resources for implementation of management plans, monitoring and evaluation, strengthening research-management interface, etc.

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